

SENATOR WITEK: So what we're doing here is the Department of Social Services when they become...when the child comes into their custody they will attempt to collect any child support that is in arrears and, at the time that the child is given back to the custody of the custodial parent, they will give the custodial parent any arrearages that they have collected and then they will keep the portion of the support that has been maintained during the time the child was in custody?

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: Correct.

SENATOR WITEK: Okay.

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: The monies that would have...if I were owing you child support, just to change the scenario from what we had earlier, and you were...it was late in payment, the department, and it was owed to you, then the child was taken, the department would collect from me and eventually then they will give you back the money that should have been yours and would have been yours, except I was delayed. But they will keep the amount of monies that they would have...that were collected during the time portion that they had the child to help defray the costs of the state's working with that child.

SENATOR WITEK: And will the department require people, new people in administration to go ahead and collect (inaudible)?

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: That's what they're currently doing now.

SENATOR WITEK: Okay, and what about any special payments during the time that the child is in custody, like medical payments or those kind of things?

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: That is the state's responsibility of which those dollars that would be collected of the support during that time period would be used to help offset that.

SENATOR WITEK: So presently the practice is that the monies that they collect, any collected from the person before the child is in their custody, they have kept.

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: That is correct.